



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Memorandum

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Subject: **INFORMATION**: Definition of Indicator As Used in 14 CFR Part 23, §23.1311, Electronic Display Instrument Systems Date: OCT 16 2000

From: Manager, Standards Office
Small Airplane Directorate, ACE-110

To: Manager, Anchorage Aircraft Certification Office, ACE-115N
Manager, Atlanta Aircraft Certification Office, ACE-115A
Manager, Boston Aircraft Certification Office, ANE-150
Manager, Brussels Aircraft Certification Staff, AEU-100
Manager, Chicago Aircraft Certification Office, ACE-115C
Manager, Denver Aircraft Certification Office, ANM-100D
Manager, Ft. Worth Airplane Certification Office, ASW-150
Manager, Ft. Worth Special Certification Office, ASW-190
Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, ANM-100L
Manager, New York Aircraft Certification Office, ANE-170
Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, ANM-100S
Manager, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, ACE-115W
Manager, Engine & Propeller Directorate, ANE-100
Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, ASW-100
Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-100

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide clarification on the definition of the word "indicator" as used in 14 CFR Part 23, §23.1311 for Part 23 airplanes only.

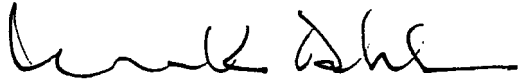
The current §23.1311 (c) defines *instrument*, "As used in this section, "instrument" includes devices that are physically contained in one unit, and devices that are composed of two or more physically separate units or components connected together (such as a remote indicating gyroscopic direction indicator that includes a magnetic sensing element, a gyroscopic unit, an amplifier, and an indicator connected together)."

The definition of "indicators" is not in the regulations or in Advisory Circular (AC) 23.1311-1A, Installation of Electronic Displays in Part 23 Airplanes, dated March 12, 1999. In a search for the word "indicator," the text does not disclose a precise definition or the intended use of the word.

For Section 23.1311, an indicator is a means for displaying information on a parameter (and is not the same as an instrument). The preambles for Section 23.1311 were intended to allow advanced and new electronic display technologies

on Part 23 airplanes and to permit the collection of indicators on a single electronic display. More than one indicator could be depicted on one display. For example, a primary flight display may have indicators for attitude, altitude, airspeed, heading, and navigation.

The above definition of the word "indicator" will be published in the next revision of AC 23.1311-1A. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Ervin Dvorak, Regulations and Policy Branch, at 816-329-4123.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. Dahl". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael K. Dahl